

# BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL *NEWS*

November 2004

Internet Address: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/bd/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/bd/)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

**November Braddock District Council meeting delayed one week.**

**We will meet on November 16 at 7:30 PM**

### Message from the Chair

I enjoy being president of my citizens' association—most of the time. But, once in a while, a problem makes the job less than pleasant and sometimes downright difficult!

When the going gets tough, it is nice to be able to turn to a thriving community association and an effective board of governors. But, how do you ensure that you have an active community association? What makes for a good board of governors? What resources are available to boards and associations from the County and from other associations?

To address these issues, the Braddock District Council is planning a two-part program on *Revitalizing Community and Civic Associations*. We will begin development of this program with our November meeting, which will take place on **Tuesday, November 16**. Please note the change of date!.

Our speaker is Cal Wagner, Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, Staff Liaison, who will discuss the differences between civic and homeowner associations. Mr. Wagner will share with us his considerable expertise on community associations. Following his presentation, the "Community Spotlight" portion of the meeting agenda will be on the Kings Park West Civic Association. Bruce Wallachy, President of the KPWCA, will moderate a panel of his neighbors who will talk about how they revitalized their civic association after it had gone inactive.

The second part of the Revitalization Program will take place at our January 11 meeting when we will have a *Community Association Workshop*. Planning for that is preliminary at this point, but we envision starting the meeting early, at 6 or 6:30 (with dinner included) and continuing through 9:30 p.m. A plenary session will start us off and then we are considering breakout groups on topics such as Incorporation and Legal Protection for Boards, Newsletters, Covenants, and Architectural Guidelines.

The January Workshop will be an opportunity for sharing problems and concerns, for getting people together who have common responsibilities so that they can also find common solutions, and for creating a network of neighbors who can call upon each other when they need assistance.

So, please put these two important dates on your calendars. Alert the members of your Boards to these programs. Let me know if you want to join the Planning Committee for the Workshop!

See you on November 16.

Janyce Hedetniemi

### Our Meeting Topic:

***How to Revive Your Community Association***  
**November 16, 2004 7:30 PM (Note new date)**  
Braddock District Council  
Braddock District Meeting Hall  
9002 Burke Lake Road Burke, VA 22015  
(703)-425-9300

### Future Meeting Dates:

November 16	May 10
December 14	June 14
January 11	July-recess
February 8	August-recess
March 8	September 13
April 12	

## SUPERVISOR BULOVA'S CORNER

In 1977, when my children started school at Laurel Ridge Elementary School in Kings Park West, I took a part time job at a small law firm in the City of Fairfax. Lorne, the firm's one legal secretary, was a rare native of Fairfax County. When I told her where I lived, Lorne looked thoughtful and said, "I used to ride horses all through the woods where your neighborhood is now." Wow! Since then, whenever I jog or drive through Kings Park West, I imagine what it was like just 35 years ago - forested hills laced with horse trails.

My staff and I often hear stories about "old time" Braddock, especially when people who have lived here the longest can no longer manage to remain in their older homes or former farm houses and apply to the County to rezone their property. For years, we've talked about capturing these old stories before they are lost forever. This year we decided to do it.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have kicked off our 2004/2005 Miniseries, ***A Look Back at Braddock***, at our October 20, 2004 Fall Town Meeting. Fairfax County's Channel 16 will be re-broadcasting the Town Meeting at 8 PM on Wednesday November 3, Thursday November 11 and Monday November 22.

The Miniseries will continue with our **Spring Town Meeting on May 25, 2005**. The program for that meeting will include discussions about evidence of Native American activities in our area of the County, early land grants and colonial settlements and Braddock in times of war and conflict. The Miniseries will conclude with our **2005 Fall Town Meeting scheduled for October 19**, where we will learn about Braddock's evolution from early history to the present - our oldest roads and settlements, public institutions and governance and how our present neighborhoods began. All town meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held in the Community Room of the Kings Park Library, next to our Braddock District office on Burke Lake Rd.

**We are looking for volunteers** who are interested in working with our office on this year long history project as we gather written anecdotes and historic materials; record and transcribe oral histories from our older residents and organize an annual competition for papers on Braddock history.

By the end of this project, we are hoping to produce a ***Look Back at Braddock Collection of Old Stories and Memories***. If you are interested in participating, please call my office at 703-425-9300 or you may reach me by E-mail at [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov). We would also love to have written recollections about Braddock as it was in earlier times. Please include a signed statement authorizing us to use your stories in our collection.

I very much look forward to working with you on this exciting project!

Sincerely,



Sharon Bulova

The Braddock District Council of Community Associations (BDC) provides a forum for representatives of residential community associations to express their views on major issues of common concern. The BDC is a section 501(c) (4) non-profit corporation, with geographic boundaries coterminous with the Braddock magisterial district. Meetings of the BDC are open to representatives of all homeowner, tenant and civic associations in the Braddock District. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August. The mailing address is:  
c/o Braddock Supervisor's Office  
9002 Burke Lake Road  
Burke, VA 22015-1608  
The Office telephone is 703-425-9300.

Chair	Janyce Hedetniemi (Oak Hill) 703-978-8095
Vice chair	Jeff Nolan (BonnieBrae ) 703-426-4761
Treasurer	Ivan Dietrich (Woods of Ilda) 703-323-1881

## **“Classroom for Kids”**

Braddock District School Board member  
Tessie Wilson

In the past few weeks, I have received several emails and phone calls regarding the article in the Connection Newspapers about the School Board’s initiative “Classroom for Kids.” The article mentioned the possible sale of a several school system sites, including one located in Braddock District. That site, Lake Braddock Park, currently contains two rectangular playing fields which are used by youth leagues for soccer games.

First, let me assure everyone, that no sale of the Lake Braddock Park site is imminent. And with the exception of the Pohick site, no sale is imminent for any of the other sites. The article in the Connection listed all sites owned by the Fairfax School system which are currently unused, or which contain administrative buildings.

The Pohick site is unusual. Located in Springfield District, the site was proffered to the school system back in the 1960s, with the proviso that it could only be used for a secondary or high school. Any other use of the property would cause the property to revert back to the successors of the original developer who proffered the land. The site was looked at as a possibility for the new South County high school, but it was deemed too small.

The school system was approached by the successors, who offered to buy the parcel at fair market value. Since the school system could not use the property, we are investigating declaring the property surplus, and selling it. Public hearings by both the school system and the Board of Supervisors have been held. The School Board voted to proceed with the sale at its meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>. **THIS IS THE ONLY PROPERTY THE SCHOOL BOARD IS VOTING ON AT THIS TIME.** With the approval of the sale, the completion date of Woodson’s renovation will move forward 6 to 9 months. Other projects in the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) will also move forward.

Currently, the Fairfax County school system’s capital improvement plan shows an unmet need of \$1.9 billion over the next ten years. These funds will be used to renovate our older schools, such as Woodson, and to add capacity and move students out of trailers. Our funding stream is set by the Board of Supervisors

and is capped at \$130 million per year. The Board of Supervisors has been very generous to the school system with regard to our capital improvement needs. However, with the phenomenal growth of the past ten years, we have fallen behind.

The “Classroom for Kids” initiative looks to convert land assets held by the school system into cash to deal with our capital improvement needs. We are still very early in the process, and are exploring many possibilities. However, we are mindful of the needs of the entire county, and not just the school system. Those needs include playing fields, affordable housing, and maintaining open space.

I want to assure everyone that no sale of any other property will occur without opportunities for public input, public hearings and well publicized information about the process. This is a long term project.

If you still have any unanswered questions, please contact me at 703-246-4781 or by e-mail at [Tessie.Wilson@fcps.edu](mailto:Tessie.Wilson@fcps.edu).

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

A list of the Braddock District Representatives on Fairfax County boards, authorities, and commissions may be accessed at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/bd/boards.htm>

### YOU CAN HELP WITH HOMELAND SECURITY IN FAIRFAX COUNTY:

Homeland security issues are taking a toll on local police departments. Police are now tending to more tasks related to homeland security issues and responding to more calls than ever before. The support of volunteers has become a critical part of meeting local homeland security threats. Here in Fairfax County you can help with these homeland security issues. Fairfax County Police are seeking volunteers who are interested in becoming Auxiliary Police Officers. To apply, obtain a brochure or additional information about the Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Unit, contact the Auxiliary Coordinator at 703-280-0576.